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DDI Registry

*DDI Chom*DDI #06431-84
14 November 1984NOTE TO: Doug MacEachin
Director, SOVA

FROM : Deputy Director for Intelligence

1. The attached paper is worth your reading. Indeed, I would recommend it also to [redacted] everyone who works in Strategic Forces Division. It paints a picture of this Agency's coverage of Soviet strategic forces over the last 20 years that certainly is contrary to our own view in important respects. Nevertheless, it is important that we all realize that it is a widely held view -- and just not necessarily by a small faction of one political persuasion. [redacted]

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2. It is unfortunate and true that the attached is a combination of fact and fiction, but with enough fact to give us pause when we do strategic force analysis and to make us ask some very hard questions. It would be a mistake to dismiss it out of hand because of the slant of the author and the homogeneity of views of those he cites as sources. I know the picture is not as one sided as he portrays. On the other hand, not a little of it is generally on the mark -- at least as I remember the period.

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[redacted]
Robert M. Gates

Attachment:
As Stated

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